

April 9, 2015
CITY OF PLATTSBURGH COMMON COUNCIL
Committee Meeting
Recreation, Community Development, Events Coordinator and Library Reports
MINUTES

Meeting commenced at **5:00 pm**.

Present: Councilors Mike Kelly (W2), Dale Dowdle (W3), Becky Kasper (W5), Joshua Kretser (W6)

Absent: Councilors Rachelle Armstrong (W1) and Paul O'Connell (W4)

Item 1: Steve Peters (Recreation):

Reported uses and conditions of the Crete Center. Due to added uses of center tow staff members have been added. Between 11/2012 to 04/2013 there were 193 teams of football and soccer. We charge some of the lowest use rates in New England. Last year 30 teams were added for a total of 223 team with a revenue of \$111,000. We now have 261 teams with 2 sessions and \$158,000 in revenue. Crete Center is now maxed out for usage that now included Little League, lacrosse and soccer practice. Up \$21,000 1st quarter over budget.

Several issues exist regarding condition of the building. Multiple roof leaks, water up thru floor, recent frozen pipes and possible broken lines resulting in sewage backup. Roof is 40 + years old. Estimates of 5 to \$7,000 for a patch job. Approximately \$800,000 to 1 million dollars to replace. \$2.7 million to replace roof, update plumbing, electrical and façade. \$2 million to tear down. Cost of a new building being explored. Must consider who building is for? Tourism, economics, indoor field sports – or for the community as they have “footed” the bill.

Nature of recreation is changing. Roof is poorly insulated with a \$60,000 electric bill. New location could be considered, a smaller sub-center (ie: climbing wall), pool? Economic Development funds are available. Use of Beach Bath house also discussed.

Item 2: Bruce Lawson (Community Development):

Reported on meeting in Saratoga with Saratoga Consultants Assoc. Amy Bonn and Melissa McManus also attended. Overall advice from Associates was “Don’t mess it up” in reference to our waterfront. Some development yes but not to overly commercialize. Dealing with Local Waterfront Development Plan (LWDP) PAC (Project Advisory Committee) will meet with Bruce and Melissa end of April. LWDP requires process to be complete to obtain funds to start projects. The upstate \$1.5 billion (3 way split) could be available as soon as June/July. This is a seven region with seven counties in each. Plattsburgh and Watertown are the biggest cities in considered regions. Highest and best uses of waterfront properties is important.

Bruce also reported on partnering with a non-profit agency for housing grants for repairs and 1st time buyers.

Item 3: Sandra Geddes (Events Planner/Coordinator):

Reported on the many events planned for this spring/summer/fall.

Green Up Days - April 26
Half Marathon - April 27
Most on the Coast - May 2
Jeanne Arthur project - May 2
Destination Downtown - May 17
Veteran's Bridge Dedication - May 23
Biggest Loser – May 31

Battle of Plattsburgh is going well with past volunteers providing advice. Will be a four day event.

Item 4: Anne de la Chappelle (Library):

Reported recent audit is complete and went well. New website went live April 7th. History room has moved to second floor. That area will now be a meeting room available for community use. New E-magazines have been added. Stairs need to be done by June 30th. Snow melt system discussed. \$30,000 originally now 70 - \$80,000. NYS matches 75% of cost.

Meeting adjourned at: 6:35pm

[Minutes recorded and submitted by Councilor Dowdle]